

dinner at matthew's house

matthew 9:9-13

a vision for chatham community

church

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realities, problems & solutions

- reality: made to run on God like a fish was made to swim in the water
- problem: born fish out of water & disconnected from God
- good news: God has dealt with this problem in Jesus
- problem: instrument for communicating good news has PR problem
- vision: God's invitation to be a part of his solution in a way that honors Him and our community

matthew 9.9-13

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and "sinners" came and ate with him and his disciples.

matthew 9.9-13

When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and ‘sinners’?”

On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

matthew 9.9-13

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and "sinners" came and ate with him and his disciples.

unusual mix @ dinner at matthew's house

- tax collectors and 'sinners'
- pharisees
- disciples

the vision: dinner at matthew's house

- tax collector's and 'sinners'
- Jesus: "I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."
- *if Jesus came for these kinds of people*
we as his church have been sent for these kinds of people
- Q: how do non-religious people end up at dinner with the most popular religious teacher ever?

survey: largest churches in america

- 25% of respondents hadn't been in any church in a long time
- number one reason why they came?
invitations: 82%!!!!
 - minimum of 1,600 invited people per church
 - that's thousands more invitations
- additional large population who have never stepped foot in church

the vision:
dinner at matthew's house

- jesus' mission:
 - “I have not come to call the righteous but sinners.”

the vision: dinner at matthew's house

- [objecting] pharisees
 - “why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and ‘sinners’?”
- Jesus' response:
 - “go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ “

the vision: dinner at matthew's house

- [uncomfortable] disciples
- Q: how do good jewish guys end up at a messy, uncomfortable, non-religious place
- A: they're following Jesus

the vision:
dinner at matthew's house

- Jesus work: connecting people to God and each other
- CCC vision statement:
 - ***connecting people to God and each other***

connecting people to God & each other

- small group
- serve
- invite

CCC [dinner at matthew's house]

vision

- the problem: we are cut-off from God and from each other
- God's solution: Jesus life, death, and resurrection
- our vision: connecting people to God and each other
 - tax collectors and 'sinners'
 - pharisees
 - disciples
 - Jesus

